



Songs for Rallies & Protests

Resources for Grounding, Inspiration, & Collective Wellbeing

- [Risk, Courage, and Discernment: Spiritual Preparation for Collective Action](#) (by Rev. Elizabeth Nguyen, 2025)
 - [Striking a Chord for Change: The Poor People's Campaign for Revolution](#) (*In These Times*, 2023)
 - [How Cultural Strategy Drives Long-Term Change](#) (By Ciara Taylor, 2024)
 - [The Heartbeat and the Builders](#) in the Anti-Authoritarian Playbook (By Scot Nakagawa, 2026)
 - [Singing Resistance Toolkit](#)
- [Grounded, Resilient, & Responsible - Responding & Organizing in Authoritarian Times](#) (SWL, 2025)
 - [Guide for Movement Chaplains](#) (Faith Matters Network, 2017)

Songbooks (most include A/V links)

****[Songs in the Key of Resistance](#) (Multiple Songsheets & Resources from the Kairos Center)**

****[Singing Resistance Songbook](#) (or go to tinyurl.com/songbookSR)**

- [Singing In Public: Melodies to Carry the Movement](#) (Jews For Racial & Economic Justice (JFREJ))
- [Free Families Songbook](#) ([FreeFamilies.Net](#): National Coalition to End Family & Child Detention)
- [Poor People's Campaign *We Rise: A Movement Songbook*](#) (2019, Poor People's Campaign)
 - [Let Me People Sing: Virtual Songbook](#) (2020); www.letmypeoplesing.org/virtualarchive
 - [Sunrise Movement Songbook](#) (2022)
- "[Ceasefire Carols](#)" (2024, Ceasefire Chorus) [Toolkit](#) with additional music & preparation resources
- "[Boycott Chevron](#)" [Carol Books](#) (Christians for a Free Palestine) with additional [Caroling Action Toolkit](#) resources

Selected Songs (July 2026 edition)

We Have Come

Luke Nephew

We have come with a force more powerful
Than the guns in our enemies hands
It's our love for all creation
That will liberate this land

We Are Not Afraid

Peace Poets

We are not afraid
We are not afraid
We will live* for liberation
'Cause we know why we were made
*(...we will fight, march, love, sing...)

The People are My Reason

The Peace Poets & Black Lives Matter Oakland

The people are my reason
The people are my reason
The people are the reason
I am never giving up

Cuz you can't hide from freedom
You can't hide from freedom
You can't hide, no you can't hide,
cuz freedom's gonna come

We Are the Movement

Peace Poets

We are the Movement
Liberation Moving
For Every Single Human
We have come to Win!

We Get There Together

By Joshua Blaine

No one is getting left behind this time
No one is getting left behind
No one is getting left behind this time
We get there together or never get there at all
We get there together or never get there at all
We get there together or never get there at all

Never Alone

Lu Aya & Peace Poets

We have not come here alone
We carry our people in our bones
We have not come here alone
If you listen you can hear them in our soul

Ancestors' Song

adapted from Grandmother's Song by Sandy Vaughn

I hear the voice of my ancestors calling,
I hear the voice of my ancestors' song

Singing wake up, wake up, child,
Wake up, wake up, listen listen, listen listen

We Rise

Batya Levine

[Repeat after each verse]

*In hope / In prayer / We find ourselves here
In hope / In prayer / We're right here (x2)*

We rise / Humbly hearted /
Rise / Won't be divided /
Rise / With spirit to guide us / Rise

We rise / All of the children
Rise / Elders in wisdom
Rise / Ancestors surround us / Rise

We rise / Up from the wreckage
Rise / With tears & with courage
Rise / Fighting for Life / Rise

We rise / Humbly hearted
Rise / Won't be divided
Rise / With spirit to guide us / Rise

We Will Protect Each Other

By the Peace Poets with Francisco Herrera and Oona Valle

We will protect each other, and
We will be everything we need
The good land, The wild water
The whole sky is always on our side!

Nosotros nos protegemos, somos nuestra solución
La tierra, el agua, el cielo, siempre nos guiará!

I am Sending You Light

Melanie DeMore

I am sending you light
To heal you, to hold you
I am sending you light
To hold you in love

Oh Palestine (& adapted)

The Peace Poets and Francisco Herrera

O Palestine, you are not alone
We will walk with you
Until you're safe at home

My neighbor, you are not alone
We will walk with you
Until you're safe at home

Nuestras vecinas,
no están solas,
les acompaño en esta hora.

I Sing My Commitment

By Oona Valle, Lu Aya of the Peace Poets and SKOR

Canto mi compromiso
De caminar contigo
Porque tu vida es sagrada para mí,

Translation:

*I sing my commitment to walk with you
because your life is sacred to me.*

Con el viento grito / con la tierra giro /
me muevo como el rio / mi fuego mantenido
Porque te necesito
Porque tu vida es sagrada para mi

Por todas las familias
Chinga la Migra
Porque tu vida es sagrada para mi!

It's Ok to Change Your Mind

Annie Schlaefer

Ooh it's okay to change your mind
Show us your courage
leave this behind

Ooh it's okay to change your mind
And you can join us
Join us here anytime

I Sing My Commitment

Mi Compromiso - Adapted lyrics by Ciara Taylor

Canto mi compromiso
De caminar contigo
Porque tu vida es sagrada para mí

I sing my commitment
Arm in arm beside you
Because your life is sacred to me

With the wind we cry out
Hearts and minds eclipsing
Because your life is sacred to me

Like the stars in constellations
Guiding you home safely
Because your life is sacred to me

For you I'll keep the light on
In times that you grow weary
Because your life is sacred to me

Flowing like the river
You will be remembered
Because your life is sacred to me

Por todas las familias
Chinga la Migra
Porque tu vida es sagrada para mi!

Canto mi compromiso
De caminar contigo
Porque tu vida es sagrada para mí

When the World Is Sick

Thee Silver Mt. Zion Memorial Orchestra

When the world is sick
Can't no one be well
But I dreamt we were all
Beautiful and strong

God Loves Us All

Charon Hribar

Love, love, love, love
Sisters*, this is our call
We will not bow to injustice
God loves us all

**Repeat with "Brothers...Siblings..."*

Never Again Para Nadie

By emet ezell

We've got ancestors at our backs
We've got generations forward
We've got land and spirit in our bones
Never again para nadie
Never again para nadie

Oye Mi Gente

by Peace Poets

Oye mi gente, traemos la fuerza
La libertad es la única bandera

Listen my people my condor, my eagle
No human being can ever be illegal

Aquí Se Oye

Lu Aya, for Coalition of Immokalee Workers of Florida's march in New York City.

Aquí se oye la voz de dignidad!
Aquí se oye la voz de libertad !

English Translation (Not Usually Sung):
Here you can hear the voice of dignity!
Here you can hear the voice of liberty!

Another World

Kerri Meyer

Another world,
Another world is not just possible
She is on her way
(x2)

Yes, I can hear her breathing
I can hear her singing
It's not just possible,
She's on her way
(x2)

Hear Our Hearts

Peace Poets with Cole Krawitz

Do you have the courage to hear our hearts?
Breaking every day, being torn apart
When will you join us, in seeking peace?
And be what ALL - our children need

Hands Off!

By Joel McGlynn and Carrie Klein of Hot Glue & the Gun.

Hands off! (Hands off!)
our DEMOCRACY
Hands off! (Hands off!)
our DEMOCRACY
Hands off! (Hands off!)
our BELOVED COMMUNITY

...our BODIES
...our WORKERS
our TRANS KIDS
Our HUMANITY
our PUBLIC LANDS
our HOUSING

[Optional bridge (every 3-4 times)]

our BELOVED COMMUNITY says HANDS OFF!

Turn the Tide

Peace Poets

When your daughter's thirsty and the rivers dry
And there's no blue left in the sacred sky
It will be too late to cry
You were on the wrong side
Now's the time, to turn the tide
Now's the time, to turn the tide

Rich Man Strategy

Peace Poets

(Call & Response)

When they try to teach us
To fear our neighbor
Please remember
Our history
Workers divided
By race and hatred
It's that same old man rich man
Strategy
Now all poor folk
are gonna get free

Rebel

The Peace Poets

Rebel, against the war they sell
Rebel, against the lies they tell
Rebel, and let us do this right
Rebel for all the people of Palestine*
*Additional verses: *for all the children in [Place] tonight*

March On, Cry Out

The Peace Poets

We gonna march on, we gonna cry out
For the children, for the mamas

We gonna march on, we gonna cry out
Until the bombs stop in Gaza

We Gonna Rise Up

Akin Olla

We gonna rise up, rise up till it's won
We gonna rise up, rise up till it's won
When the people rise up, the powers come down
When the people rise up, the powers come down
They try to stop us, but we keep coming back
They try to stop us, but we keep coming back

Spanish version:

Nos levantaremos, arriba hasta ganar
Nos levantaremos, arriba hasta ganar
Cuando nos levantamos, los poderes se caen
Cuando nos levantamos, los poderes se caen
Quisieron pararnos; seguimos regresando
Quisieron detenernos; seguimos luchando

We Are Fighting for Our Futures

Katey Lauer

We are fighting for our futures
We are healing what is wrong
We are fighting for our futures
And together we are strong

People Gonna Rise

by The Peace Poets

People gonna rise like the water
gonna face this crisis now.
I hear the voices of my great-granddaughters
sayin' climate justice now.
(Or "sayin' shut this pipeline down.")

Set It Right Again

Ana Hernandez

Call: There's a great trouble in the land.
Response: We're gonna set it right again.
Call: There's a great trouble in the land.
Response: We're gonna set it right again.
Call: There's a great trouble in the land.
Response: We're gonna set it right again.
All: We're gonna set it right, set it right again.

Calls:

Trouble's been brewin' too many years....
People need healing all over the world...
We need clean water and healthy food...
We must have housing, we've a right to thrive..

Let Gaza Live

Lu Aya & Liko Martin

Let Gaza Live, Say Yes to Life
Divest from War and Invest in Life
Let Gaza Live, Say Yes to Life
If you blessed with life, then protect this life!
If you blessed with life, then protect this life!

The Tide is Rising

by Rabbi Shoshana Friedman

The tide is rising and so are (3x)
This is where we are called to be.

The land is holy... / The task is mighty... /
The storm is raging... / The sun is shining...

Somebody's Hurting My Brother

Yara Allen

Somebody's hurting my brother
and it's gone on far too long.
Yes, it's gone on far too long
I tell you, it's gone on far too long.
and we won't be silent anymore.

Somebody's hurting my neighbor...
Somebody's pois'ning the water

What Do We Want

Charon Hribar

Sung: Call (Echo)

What do we want right here today (What do we want...)
Justice for all people (Justice for all people)
We'll march until we get our way (We'll march until...)
Justice for all people (Justice for all people)

Chant: Call (Response)

What do we want! (Justice!)
When do we want it! (Now!)

Other Verses

An end to fossil fuels / Healthcare for all people /
Protect the land and water / Justice for our planet /
Housing for all people / Public education

Rise Up

Charon Hribar & Jose Vasquez

Rise up we're gonna rise up
Rise up we're gonna rise up
We ain't gonna let nobody turn us around
Because the people united will stand our ground

Rise up we're gonna rise up
Rise up we're gonna rise up
The powers that be can't keep us down
We're gonna rise up and turn the world around

Rise up come on and rise up
Rise up come on and rise up
The people are ready so follow our lead
We'll put an end to the violence, the hatred and greed

Rise up we're gonna rise up
Rise up we're gonna rise up
Rise up (4x)

Solid as a Rock

Solid as a rock (Solid as a rock)
Rooted like a tree (rooted like a tree)
I am here! (I am here!)
Standing strong! (standing strong!*)
In my rightful place (In my rightful place)

**"Standing strong" can be replaced by "rising strong."*

Liberation Today

Ciara Taylor, Pauline Pisano, Steff Reed and Charon Hribar adapted from a traditional folk song, Bele Mama ("Call Mother," Oroko, Cameroon)

Hey na na, hey na na yeah,
Hey na na, hey na na yeah,
Hey na na, hey na na, hey na na, hey na na
Hey na na, hey na na yeah.

You only get what you're organized to take...
Liberation, liberation, today...
I need you to survive...
We need to organize...

This is for Our Families

by Luke Nephew

This is for our families
Who are locked inside
Together we will
Abolish ICE

Our Power

Rena Branson

We will not underestimate our power any longer
We know that together, we are strong
Like drops of water shape the rocks
As they rush down the falls
We know that together, we are strong

More Waters Rising

Saro Lynch-Thomas

There are more waters rising
This I know, this I know
There are more waters rising
This I know
There are more waters rising
They will find their way to me
There are more waters rising
This I know, this I know
There are more waters rising
This I know

There are more fires burning...
There are more mountains falling...

I will wade through the waters
This I know, this I know
I will wade through the waters
This I know

I will wade through the waters
When they find their way to me
I will wade through the waters
This I know, this I know
I will wade through the waters
This I know

I will walk through the fires...
I will rebuild the mountains...

Dignity Not Detention

Lu Aya

Don't let your heart be hopeless,
It's time to organize & focus.
We need our families present,
Dignity, not detention.

I Believe In Being Ready

Appalachian Folk Spiritual

I believe in being ready
I believe in being ready
I believe in being ready
For the time is drawin' near

Brothers, sisters please get ready...*
Oh there'll be signs of wonder...
We believe in being ready...

**Additional verse: "All my people let's get ready"*

May This Body Be A Bridge

Te Martin

May this body be a bridge
for the healing of this land
May the river flow through us
cleansing greed from our hands

We are, we are born from the water
We are, we are made from the land
Teach us, teach us, oh great mother
To bring, to bring peace to this land

This Little Light of Mine (Bilingual)

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine (x3)
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine
Mi pequeña luz yo dejaré brillar. (x3)
Brillará, Brillará, Brillará

Sing Down the Walls

Children in the Dilley Detention Center & the Peace Poets

I sing from here, you sing from there
Together We'll sing down the walls everywhere!
The love in our hearts like the waves of the sea
Together we'll sing until everyone's free

Yo canto acá, tu cantas allá
Y todos los muros vamos a tumbar!
Nuestro amor como olas del mar
Cantando llegamos a la libertad

Mwen ap chante la, ou chante lòt bò
Nao chante ansanm pou nou kraze miray
Nou genyen lajwa tankou vag lanmè yo
Nou pral chante ansanm jouk jout tout moun libète

They Tried to Bury Us

Music by Stacey Craig; Inspired by the words of Dinos Christianopoulos

They tried to bury us,
They tried to bury us,
They didn't know that we were seeds

Lead with Love

Melanie DeMore

Chorus

You gotta put one foot in front of the other
And lead with love
Put one foot in front of the other
And lead with love

Don't give up hope (don't give up hope)
You're not alone (you're not alone)
Don't you give up (don't you give up)
Keep movin' on (keep movin' on)

[Chorus]

Lift up your eyes
Don't you despair
Look up ahead
The path is there

[Chorus]

I know you're scared
And I'm scared too
But here I am
Right next to you

[Chorus]

tinyurl.com/ralliesAUUMM26

Songsheet compiled by Rev. Ranwa Hammamy

Rich Man's House

Minka Wiltz & the Economic Human Rights Choir of the New Freedom Bus Tour

I went down to the rich man's house
And I took back what he stole from me
Took back my dignity
Took back my humanity (2x)

And now it's under my feet (where?)
Under my feet (where?)
Under my feet (where?)
Under my feet

Ain't gonna let no system walk all over me ...

Went down to the ICE office ...
Went down to the DOGE office ...
Went down to Congress ...
Went down to the White House...

The People Will Rise

Nelini Stamp

Chorus:

The people will rise (6x)

Verse 1

Why are we in this situation that brings us down.
Can't you see we are losing patience with oppression now.

Verse 2

We have come to raise our voices for the broken down.
You and me, we will stand together on common ground."